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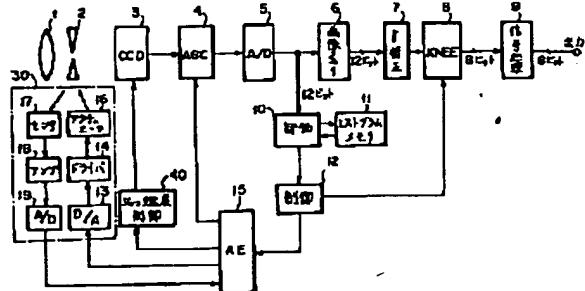
APPLICATION DATE : 22-12-93
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APPLICANT : CANON INC;

INVENTOR : TAKAHASHI KOJI;

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**TITLE : IMAGE PROCESSING UNIT AND
IMAGE PICKUP DEVICE**



ABSTRACT : PURPOSE: To effectively utilizing a dynamic range of a digital processing circuit by applying arithmetic processing such as detailed nonlinear processing to each screen depending on a picked-up image.

CONSTITUTION: The image processing unit is provided with a variable means varying a signal level depending on a content of image pickup, an A/D converter 5 converting an output varied by the variable means into a digital signal, an image storage means 6 storing image information outputted from the A/D converter 5, an evaluation means 10 evaluating the image information, an arithmetic means 8 applying arithmetic processing to the signal outputted from the image storage means 6 and a control means 12 controlling the variable means and the arithmetic means 8 based on the evaluation result of the evaluation means 10. Furthermore, the image pickup device uses a variable means to vary a signal level of each means including a control means 30, a shutter speed control means 40 and an amplification factor control means 4.

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